

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
13 May 2004 (13.05.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/040846 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04L 12/24**,
12/56

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): **SAFFRE, Fabrice,**
Tristan, Pierre [BE/GB]; 24 Wilkes Court, Kesgrave, Ip-
swich, Suffolk IP5 2EQ (GB).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/GB2003/004533

(74) Agent: **WALLIN, Nicholas, James**; BT Group Legal, In-
tellectual Property Department, PP CSIA, BT Centre, 81
Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ (GB).

(22) International Filing Date: 21 October 2003 (21.10.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(81) Designated States (national): CA, US.

(26) Publication Language: English

(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE,
BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU,
IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR).

(30) Priority Data:
0225139.5 29 October 2002 (29.10.2002) GB
0303598.7 17 February 2003 (17.02.2003) GB

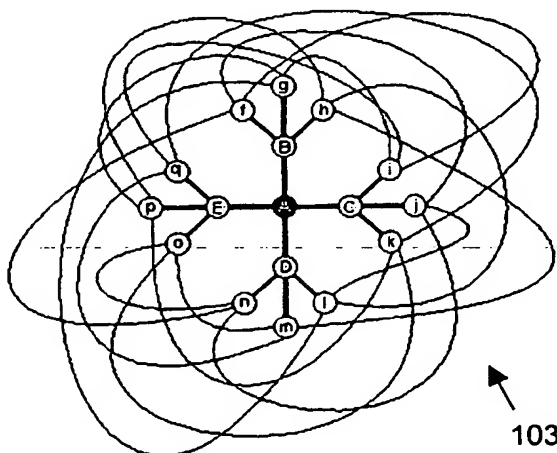
Published:

— without international search report and to be republished
upon receipt of that report

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **BRITISH
TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED
COMPANY** [GB/GB]; 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A
7AJ (GB).

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR NETWORK MANAGEMENT



(57) Abstract: A network, and a method and appa-
ratus for network management are disclosed in which
nodes in the network are arranged specified number of
connections with other nodes by initiating links across
the network tree structure to nodes on the same level
in the hierarchical tree. As a result, nodes are linked to
their sibling nodes in addition to being linked to parent
and child nodes